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In Application of:

) Examiner: Unassigned
)
) Group Art Unit: 2838

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) May 8, 2002
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SECOND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the listed documents are also enclosed.

JP 09-285015, listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449, is cited in the specification at pages 3 and 5, and is relevant for the reasons noted therein. In addition, Applicants have obtained, from a commercial database, an English language abstract for JP 09-285015. A copy of the abstract is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience and listed on the Form PTO-1449.

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The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Applications:

<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group Art Unit</u>	<u>Status</u>
09/818,604	March 28, 2001	2838	Pending
09/961,328	September 25, 2001	2858	Pending
09/984,391	October 30, 2001	2833	Pending
10/059,170	January 31, 2002	2859	Pending

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of each of the cited U.S. applications are enclosed.

FORMAL MATTERS

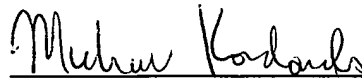
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Official Action on the merits of the subject application has not yet been issued, neither a certificate, petition nor payment of a fee is believed to be required for this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael E. Kondoudis", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants

Michael E. Kondoudis

Registration No. 42,758

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